

ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN NEW HOUSING

Site practice for tradesmen

Windows and doors: Insulating reveals



An increasingly common requirement with improved standards of insulation is the positioning of insulation at opening reveals, behind subsills and within lintels. The insulation is positioned at these locations to reduce heat loss through these areas, and prevent 'cold spots' occurring on which condensation can form.

Insulation may be either built in as the wall construction proceeds, or manufactured components fixed to window and door frames prior to installation. Whichever method has been specified, careful setting out of the window/door frame will be required to ensure a good fit for the various components. Continuity of the insulation is essential, and the dpc should also be unbroken. Frame fixings should be installed as specified.

To help ensure a successful installation and good performance from the completed installation, follow the points on the back of this leaflet.

REMEMBER

Workmanship is one of the most important factors in avoiding air leakage



Energy Efficiency Office
DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

“Workmanship is one of the most important factors in avoiding air leakage”

POINTS TO FOLLOW

- Establish setting out for the window/door frame in relation to the cavity closer
- Maintain cavity width around openings, especially where manufactured components are being installed
- Use specified type and thickness of insulation
- Use standard reveal blocks to return masonry

Build insulation into the reveal, do not push in after wall completed



Install vertical dpc, and ensure dpc projects 25 mm beyond insulation into cavity



Insulation at a sill location should be supported on wall ties, and should extend the full height of any subsill



Cut insulation batts or boards to fit to toe of lintel



Acknowledgements

The cooperation of the following organisations in the preparation of this Guide is gratefully acknowledged.

Building Employers Confederation, Energy Group North West (CIBSE, CIOB, RIBA, RICS), National House-Building Council, Chartered Institute of Building, DOE, BRE, Construction Industry Training Board, NBA Tectonics, Wimpey Environmental.